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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR

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DONALD G. MACGILL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Medical Officer of Health.

W. OLDHAM,
Sanitary Inspector.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WARDLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health and Mortality of your district during 1948.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

1)	Area in Acres.	3,192
11)	Population 1931 Census	4,793
	Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population 1948	4,201
111)	Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948, according to the rate book	1,351
IV)	Rateable Value	£29,622
V)	Sum represented by a penny rate	£121
VI)	Industries - The chief industries carried out in the area are: Cotton and Woollen Manufacturing, Silk Weaving, Wallpaper Printing, Dairy Farming and Light Engineering.	
VII)	Unemployment - There has been no unemployment during the year.	

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births:			
Legitimate	57	28	29
Illegitimate	2	1	1
Still Births:			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	2	-	2

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

14.0

Still Births

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births Nil

	Total	Male	Female
Deaths	66	34	32

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

15.7

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	33
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	500

Death from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
Death from Cancer (all ages)	8

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				Maternity Mortality Rate.		
Estimated Population Mid. 1948.	Live Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Death Rate from Cancer.	Per 1,000 Live Births.	Per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births.	Rate of Death under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births.
4,201							
Mean of 5 years 1943 - 1947....	14.0	15.1	0.28	1.68	Nil	Nil	61
Year 1947.....	17.9	12.9	0.47	1.43	Nil	Nil	53
Yeas 1948.....	14.0	15.7	0.71	1.90	Nil	Nil	33
Increase or decrease in 1948 on 5 years average 1943-1947	Nil	+0.6	+0.43	+0.22	Nil	Nil	-28
Previous year	-3.9	-2.8	+0.24	+0.47	Nil	Nil	-20

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.
(Up to 4th July, 1948.)

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious cases - These were removed by the Motor Ambulance belonging to the Littleborough, Milnrow and Wardle Joint Hospital Board.

(b) Non-infectious and Accident cases - The existing agreement with Rochdale Corporation was terminated on the 31st March 1948, and for the remaining months until the 4th July a satisfactory service was arranged with the Littleborough Urban District Council.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) General Nursing - The Wardle Urban District Nursing Association undertake the Nursing of the sick.

(b) Nursing of Infectious Diseases - Arrangements have been made for these cases.

(c) Financial Assistance - The Council make a grant of £10 per annum to the Wardle Nursing Association.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

(a) The Lancashire County Council have a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the district.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the Rochdale Corporation for cases of Scabies to be treated at the Rochdale Centre.

Hospitals.

There is one public Hospital in the district - Birch Hill.

There are no voluntary hospitals situated in the district.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Smallpox - No cases of Smallpox occurred during the year. Hospital accommodation is provided by agreement with the Bury & District Joint Hospital Board, the total number of beds for the area covered by the Board being 50. £6-10-6 apportioned retaining fee was paid.

Other Infectious Diseases.

Provision of Hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases is provided for by the Littleborough, Milnrow and Wardle Joint Hospital Board at their Hospital at Smithy Bridge, Littleborough. The cost to Wardle for this service for the period ended 4th July, 1948, was £118-7-3.

Scarlet Fever.

Three cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to hospital.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year.

Enteric Fever.

There were no cases during the year.

Whooping Cough.

Five cases were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis.

Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, were notified during the year. One of these cases were notified from Birch Hill Hospital.

Puerperal Fever.

No cases notified.

Puerperal Pyroxia.

Two cases were notified during the year from Birch Hill Hospital.

Measles.

32 cases were notified during the year.

Erysipelas.

Two cases notified, one a patient in Birch Hill Hospital.

Generally.

There has been no prevalance of notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1948, and it is of interest to note that there were no cases of Diphtheria during the year, as was the case in 1947.

Insulin. (Prior to 5th July, 1948).

Insulin is supplied free to Diabetics on production of Medical Certificate.

Diphtheria Antitoxin. (Prior to 5th July, 1948).

Supplies are available at the Surgery, Spring House, Smallbridge.

Anto-Meningococcus Serum. (Prior to 5th July, 1948).

This Serum can be obtained if necessary.

Other Vaccines and Sera.

Any other Vaccines or Sera are supplied free to Medical Practitioners if applied for.

Discovery and Action.

All reports of suspected diseases are investigated by me.

Pathological, etc., Examinations.

The number of specimens examined during the year was:-

Diphtheria 10.

Immunisation - Diphtheria. (Prior to 5th July, 1948).

During the year 17 pre-school and 2 school children were immunised against Diphtheria.

No action has been taken to provide artificial immunisation against Scarlet Fever.

No epidemics occurred during the year.

I am chiefly indebted for the information regarding unnotifiable diseases, to the returns of sickness in schools supplied to me by the Schools Attendance Officer.

I should like to express my appreciation of the efficient assistance given to me by Mr. C. Haigh, and Mr. W. Oldham.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

DONALD G. MACGILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1949.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1948.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE WARDLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Sanitary Report for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

GENERAL SURVEY.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Of two samples of effluent taken by the Rivers Board during the year one was unsatisfactory. No aluminoferric has been used during this period.

Work on tidying and clearing up at the works continued.

Farmers continue to remove sludge after drying has taken place.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year there were 46 cases of Infectious Diseases notified as follows:- 3 Scarlet Fever, 32 Measles, 5 Whooping Cough, 2 Puerperal Pyrexia, 2 Erysipelas, 1 Poliomyelitis, 1 Infective Hepatitis.

Disinfections were carried out where necessary and Head Teachers and Employers notified of contacts.

House Refuse.

The Collection of House Refuse has been done weekly when possible and at the same time salvage is collected. It is disposed of by good controlled tipping.

An alternative tip at Ashbrook is now in use.

Overcrowding.

One case of overcrowding was brought to my notice during the year, which was abated in reasonable time.

Cow Sheds.

The number of cow sheds in the district is 25 and during the year 50 visits were made. Generally the sheds are in a clean state but a considerable amount of alterations will be required to be done to many of them to bring them up to a proper standard. One dairy has been improved. One dairyman was removed from the Register for unsatisfactory methods and premises.

Slaughterhouses.

Three slaughterhouses are licenced in the district but no regular killing takes place at them, they being used occasionally for killing a pig.

Bakehouses.

The bakehouses still being used have been visited regularly and found in a clean condition.

Meat Shops.

The Meat Shops have been visited and found to maintain a very good standard of cleanliness.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The district is supplied with water by the Rochdale Corporation and the water is satisfactory as to quality, quantity and constancy. A number of cottages in the outskirts of the district are supplied by wells and springs. No complaints were received during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

All the sewage from the district is dealt with at the Council's Sewage Works at New Mill, the method of treatment being by precipitation tanks, continuous filters and human tanks. No extension to the system was carried out during the year.

Rivers and Streams.

The Lancashire Rivers Board dealt with the pollution of the rivers and streams in this district.

Closet Accommodation Conversion.

The Council continue to pay one half the cost of conversion of pail closets to fresh water flush system up to a maximum payment of £4.

Smoke Abatement.

Seven observations made during the year proved in order.

Schools.

The Sanitary condition of the schools in the district is good.

Offensive Trade.

No nuisance has occurred in the district from the only Fellmonger.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

W. OLDHAM,

Sanitary Inspector.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1948.
(including cases notified from Birch Hill).

"NOTIFIABLE DISEASES"	Total Cases at all ages.	Total cases notified. Years. Under 1	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	20 -	35 -	45 -	65 & over	Total deaths.	Hospitals. Total cases removed to hospital from district.	Deaths in hospitals in persons belonging to district.
Smallpox.....																
Scarlet Fever.....	3					1	1		1						3	
Diphtheria (including membranous croup).....																
Enteric fever (including paratyphoid).....																
Measles (excluding German Measles....	32	-	4	3	4	3	18							Nil		
Whooping Cough....	5	1	3				1									
Acute pneumonia...																
Puerperal pyrexia.	2									2						
Cerebro-spinal fever.....																
Acute Poliomyelitis	1										1					
Acute Polio-encephalitis.....																
Encephalitis Lethergica.....																
Dysentery.....																
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....																
Erysipelas.....	2											1	1			
Malaria.....																
Infective Hepatitis	1								1							
	46	1	7	3	4	4	20	-	2	2	1	1	1		3	

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1 year.....				1				1
1 - 5 "								
5 - 10 "								
10 - 15 "								
15 - 20 "	1							
20 - 25 "								
25 - 35 "								
35 - 45 "								
45 - 55 "								
55 - 65 "								
65 and upwards.....		1				1		
No record of age.....								
	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1

TABLE V.

LISTS OF ACTS AND SECTIONS THEREOF ADOPTED BY THE WARDLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Part III). Adopted 15th May, 1891.

2. Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889. Adopted 6th April, 1899.

3. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Parts ii and iii (excepting S48) IV and V. Operative from 5th October, 1911.

4. Private Street Works Act, 1892. Operative from 5th October, 1911.

5. Notification of Births Act, 1907. Operative from 13th October, 1914.

6. Public Health Act, 1925, (Parts 11, 111, and IV) Operative from 31st January, 1927.

7. Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923. Adopted 2nd August, 1934.

Observations as to their administration - Good.

TABLE VI.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

	At 31.12.47.	At 21.12.48.
Privy Middens	28	28
Closets attached to these Middens	26	26
Pail Closets	93	87
Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens)	4	4
Fresh Water Closets	758	840
Waste Water Closets	14	8
Moveable Ashbins	880	956

TABLE VII.

CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

		During Year 1948.
No. of Privy Closets.	To Fresh W.C.'s	-
	To Waste W.C.'s	-
	To Pail W.C.'s	-
No. of Pail Closets.	To Fresh W.C.'s	6
	To Waste W.C.'s	-
No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s		6